

IN THE CLAIMS

The pending claims are as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A system for transmitting a programmable message to a receiving device upon receipt of an event, said system comprising:

an Internet data communications network;

5 at least one sending device operatively connected to the data communications network, the at least one sending device sending a stream of packets;

at least one further sending device operatively connected to the data communications network, the at least one further
10 sending device transmitting an event in a packet upon a predetermined occurrence;

at least one receiving device operatively connected to the data communications network, the at least one receiving device capable of receiving and processing data, the at least one
15 receiving device receiving and rendering said stream of packets;

a persistent data store;

a predetermined set of selectively retrievable messages stored in the persistent data store;

a monitor operatively in communication with the sending
20 devices, the monitor further being able to access the set of selectively retrievable messages stored in the persistent data store; and

monitoring software, at least a portion of which is resident and executable within the monitor, the monitoring software causing the monitor to detect the event in the packet transmitted by the at least one further sending device, to select at least one of the selectively retrievable messages based on the event, to modify data in the packet containing the event to include the selected retrievable message, and to substitute said modified packet for a corresponding packet in said stream of packets, whereby said at least one receiving device renders said selected retrievable message.

2. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data communications network interface is selected from the group of data communications network interfaces consisting of wired networks, wireless networks, and mixed wired and wireless networks.

3. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data communications network further comprises a local area network.

4. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 3, wherein the events comprise alerts generated by sending devices operatively connected to the local area network.

5 5. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 3,
wherein the monitor is operatively connected to both the Internet
and the local area network as a gateway intermediate the Internet
and one or more devices operatively connected to the local area
network.

6. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the at least one receiving device receiving the message
from the monitor is selected from a group of receiving devices
connected to the local area network and receiving devices
5 operatively connected to the Internet.

7. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said at least one receiving device processes the selected
retrievable message into data formatted to be rendered into human
perceptible experiences.

8. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the receiving device comprises intelligent home network
appliances, radios, personal computers, and televisions, each of
which is capable of rendering the processed data into human
5 perceptible experiences.

9. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1,
wherein the persistent data store is a selected from the set of
persistent data stores consisting of magnetic media located local

to the monitor, magnetic media distributed away from the monitor,
5 optical media located local to the monitor, optical media
distributed away from the monitor, solid state memories located
local to the monitor, and solid state memories distributed away
from the monitor.

10. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1
wherein the system further comprises an external source of
messages, wherein the monitoring software causes the monitor to
selectively receive and process messages from the external source
5 when selecting at least one of the selectively retrievable messages
based on the event.

11. (Previously Presented) A method of generating messages for
transmission to a receiving device, responsive to packets received
at a monitor, the monitor operatively connected to the Internet and
to the receiving device, the method comprising the steps of:

5 monitoring original packets being received by a receiving
device;

selecting at least one retrievable message from a set of
retrievable messages responsive to a received event for packets of
said original packets comprising at least one event; and

10 for each receiving device associated with the selected
retrievable message, replacing each original packet being received
by the receiving device with a new packet comprising a

predetermined portion of the selected retrievable message for the duration of the selected retrievable message.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said method further comprises the step of:

5 sending the retrievable messages selected based on the received event to at least one default receiving device if no receiving devices are associated with the retrievable messages selected based on the received event.

13. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said replacing step further comprises the step of:

5 mixing a predetermined portion of the selected retrievable message with a predetermined portion of an input streaming media data stream contained in the original packet into a new streaming media stream contained in the new packet.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 13, wherein said replacing step further comprising the steps of:

5 altering an audio portion of the input streaming media data stream to a predetermined level before mixing the predetermined portion of the selected retrievable message with the predetermined portion of the input streaming media data stream into a new streaming media stream; and

 altering a video portion of the input streaming media data stream to a predetermined level before mixing the predetermined

10 portion of the selected retrievable message with the predetermined
portion of the input streaming media data stream into a new
streaming media stream.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11,
wherein said replacing step further comprises the step of:

storing a predetermined portion of the original packet for
later retrieval before replacing each original packet with a new
5 packet comprising a predetermined portion of the selected
retrievable message.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11,
wherein said method further comprising the step of:

enabling an authorized end user to modify at least one
property of the set of retrievable messages for the set of
5 retrievable messages further comprising at least one property for
each retrievable message.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16,
wherein the modifiable property of the set of retrievable messages
comprises a destination address, audio content, visual content, and
subsequent actions to be performed by at least one of the devices
5 at the destination address.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 11,
wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

receiving messages from an authorized third party source
of messages;

5 associating the messages received from the third party
with at least one event; and

storing the messages received from the third party into
the set of retrievable messages.

19. (Previously Presented) An electronic event-based messaging
system comprising:

means for receiving a first packet from the Internet;

means for analyzing the first packet to determine if it

5 contains an event;

means for retrieving at least one message associated with
the event from a set of retrievable messages for first packets
containing events;

10 means for transforming data in the first packet into a set
of data in a second packet containing at least a portion of the
retrieved message; and

means for substituting the second packet for the first
packet for destination addresses required by the first packet that
are also required by the second packet.

20. (Previously Presented) A packet-based messaging system stored
via a data storage medium, said packet-based messaging system
comprising:

a first plurality of binary values for receiving a first
5 packet over the Internet;

a second plurality of binary values for analyzing the
first packet to determine if it contains an event;

a third plurality of binary values for retrieving at least
one message associated with the event from a set of retrievable
10 messages for first packets containing events;

a fourth plurality of binary values for transforming data
in the first packet into a set of data in a second packet
containing at least a portion of the retrieved message; and

a fifth plurality of binary values for substituting the
15 second packet for the first packet for destination addresses
required by the first packet that are also required by the second
packet.

21-22. (Cancelled).

23. (Previously Presented) A computer program embodied within a
computer-readable medium for causing a processor to perform the
method as claimed in claim 11.

24. (Cancelled).